Measures to cut the distribution and carrying costs of the Food Corporation of India

1093^ SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Finance have ordered an inquiry to find out means* of cutting the distribution land currying Costs of the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, what was the outcome of the said inquiry; and

(c) what 'action Government have taken on the findings' thereof and the results achieved so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Pre budget and post-budgej price, of essential commodities

1094. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state-.

(a) what are the pre-Budget and post-Budget prices of essential commodities like various edible oils, sugar and food-grains;

(b) v/nat are the reasons f°r tne 'ion. in prices; and

(c) to what extent the price rise •would reflect upon the consumer price index and index meant for DA compu terisation for Government employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The answer is given in statement (See below)

(b) As is indicated by the statement at Annex, there has been a mixed trend in the prices of various commodities between the weeks ending 22-2-1986 and 22-4-1986. The increase in the wholesale price indices of rice and bajra may be attributed to seasonal factors. Similarly, the increase in the price indices of sugar and gur is largely due to seasonal factors. Tne increase in the price indices of edible oils is due to recovery in the prices of cocount oil, increase in excise duty on refined edible oils, advancement of the season for oils like groundnut oil and gingelly oil and expectation of a lower grundnut crop.

(c) In March, 1986, the conumer price index for industrial workers has moved up by 0.8 per cent over February, 1986. This is ths index which is used for the purpose of computation of DA pay ment to the Government employees.

Statement

Commod ity	Wholesale price Index as in week ending		Percentage variation
	22-2-1986	12-4-1986	
1	2	3	4
Rice	276·6	284·2	+2·7
Wheat	250·4	237·1	—5·3
Jowar	256·2	254·0	—0·9
Bajra	299·3	311·8	+4·2